



San Diego City Attorney **MICHAEL J. AGUIRRE**

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 19, 2008

Contact: Communications Division (619) 235-5725

SIGN-ON TO CITY ATTORNEY'S WEBSITE FOR INFORMATION ABOUT CITY'S NEW CHILD PROTECTION ORDINANCE RELATED TO SEX OFFENDERS

Video of Today's Community Forum will also be posted on City Attorney's Website

San Diego, CA—In the City of San Diego there are 1,886 registered sex offenders. More than 90 % of child victims are sexually assaulted by someone known to the child or the child's family. Funded counseling programs are available for victims who have reported sexual abuse crimes. As of next month, when the City of San Diego's new Child Protection Ordinance takes effect, registered sex offenders, even those with children, will not be able to frequent areas where children usually gather such as parks.

That information and more was disseminated at today's Child Protection Act Community Forum sponsored by the San Diego City Attorney's Office and can be viewed by visiting the San Diego City Attorney's website—www.sandiegocityattorney.org., click on the homepage "Child Protection Ordinance."

The City's new Child Protection Ordinance makes it unlawful for registered sex offenders to reside within 2000 feet of certain places where children regularly gather and makes it unlawful for registered sex offenders to be within 300 feet of those locations. The City's Child Protection Ordinance was passed by the San Diego City Council on March 11, 2008.

A panel of ten experts in the field of sexual offenders participated in this afternoon's community forum moderated by City Attorney Michael Aguirre. It was broadcast live by City TV24 and will re-air tonight at 7 p.m. The video of the community forum will also be posted on the City Attorney's website on the Media Center webpage within 24 hours.

"I urge families to watch the community forum because they will learn critical information about the City's new ordinance and how they can protect their children from sexual offenders," said City Attorney Michael Aguirre.

Panelists:

Heather Dauler, SD Sex Offender Management Council; Denise Felix, Commander SD SAFE Task Force, California Department of Justice; Jorge Gonzalez, Supervisor Probation Adult Field Services, SD County Probation; Al Killen-Harvey, LCSW, Chadwick Center for Children & Families Rady Children's Hospital; Steve Kubicek, Parole Agent, Department of Corrections & Rehabilitation,
(MORE)

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<http://www.sandiegocityattorney.org>

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State of California; Phyllis Shess, Director Sex Offender Management, SD County District Attorney's Office; Mark Sullivan, Supervisor Sex Offender Registration Unit, San Diego Police Department; Mary Nuesca, Police Legal Advisors, Civil Division in the SD City Attorney's Office; Michelle Garland, Screening & Arraignment Unit, Criminal Division in the SD City Attorney's Office; and Shelley Webb, Domestic Violence & Special Victim's Unit, Criminal Division in the SD City Attorney's Office.

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